Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended)   A method for policy-based control of a communication network having a distributed architecture, including at least one heterogeneous communication network, the method comprising:

messaging between network elements, said network elements comprising at least one policy enforcement point (PEP), one or more policy decision points (PDPs), which network elements provide for registering events;

providing the PEP with a server capability and changing the PDPs to clients;

establishing a service agreement between the PEP and the PDP, the service agreement determining a subset of subscribed events of the PEP which may be requested by the PDP;

sending notifications of the occurrence of events subscribed to by the PDPs; and

the PEP enforcing a policy upon said events if certain conditions are met.

2.   (Previously Presented)   The method for policy-based control of a communication network according to claim 1, wherein the policies of a PEP are available to the one or more PDPs.

3.   (Previously Presented)   The method for policy-based control of a communication network according to claim 1, wherein the one or more PDPs subscribe to one or more PEP policy enforcement capabilities outside the service domain of a PDP.

4.   (Canceled)

5.   (Previously Presented)   The method for policy-based control of a communication network according to claim 1, where, in case of a PEP receiving from multiple PDPs, multiple suggestions to enforce said policy, a preference-or priority scheme is applied by said PEP for selecting such a suggestion to enforce a policy upon.

6.   (Previously Presented)   The method for policy-based control of a communication network according to claim 1, wherein, after the occurrence of the event, said messaging is synchronous, wherein event data are sent together with the notifications from the PEP to the PDP.

7.   (Previously Presented)   The method for policy-based control of a communication network according to claim 1, wherein, after occurrence of the event, said messaging is asynchronous, wherein event data are sent from the PEP to the PDP after a request by the PDP for sending said event data.

8.   (Previously Presented)   The method for policy-based control of a communication network according to claim 1, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

- a PEP registering events that PDPs can subscribe to;
- the PEP registering policy enforcements that the PDP may suggest to the PEP;
- the PDP obtaining said registered events;
- the PDP obtaining said registered policy enforcements;

9.   (Previously Presented)   The method for policy-based control of a communication network according claim 8, wherein the method further comprises the steps of:

- The PDP requesting a PEP to be notified of a specified event;
- The PDP requesting a PEP for a possibility to enforce a policy;
- The PEP notifying a PDP that the specified event has occurred;

- The PDP suggesting to said PEP a policy enforcement appropriate for said specified event; and

- The PEP enforcing said policy enforcement.

10. (Currently Amended) A system for policy-based control of a communication network having a distributed architecture, including at least one heterogeneous communication network comprising:

means for messaging between network elements, said network elements comprising at least one policy enforcement point (PEP) the PEP having a server capability, one or more policy decision points (PDPs), the PDPs being changed to clients, which network elements provide for registering events;

means for establishing a service agreement between the PEP and the PDP, the service agreement determining a subset of subscribed events of the PEP which may be requested by the PDP;

means for sending notifications of the occurrence of events subscribed to by the PDPs; and

means associated with the PEP for enforcing a policy upon said events if certain conditions are met.

11. (Previously Presented) The system for policy-based control of a communication network according to claim 10, having access means for making the policies of a PEP available to the one or more PDPs.

12. (Previously Presented) The system for policy-based control of a communication network according to claim 10, having subscribing means for the one or more PDPs to subscribe to one or more PEP policy enforcement capabilities outside their own service domain.

13. (Previously Presented) The system for policy-based control of a communication network according to claim 10, where, in case of multiple PDPs having

registered to the same event, prioritizing means are provided for applying a preference- or priority scheme by the PEP for sending the notifications to one or more of said multiple PDPs.

14. (Previously Presented) The system for policy-based control of a communication network according to claim 10, where, in case of a PEP receiving multiple suggestions from multiple PDPs, selecting means are provided for applying a preference-or priority scheme by said PEP for selecting a suggestion to enforce a policy upon.

15. (Previously Presented) The system for policy-based control of a communication network according to claim 10, wherein synchronous messaging means are provided to enable, after the occurrence of the event, synchronous messaging, wherein event data are sent together with the notifications from the PEP to the PDP.

16. (Previously Presented) The system for policy-based control of a communication network according to claim 10, wherein asynchronous messaging means are provided to enable, after occurrence of the event, asynchronous messaging, wherein event data are sent from the PEP to the PDP after a request by the PDP for sending said event data.

17. (Previously Presented) The system for policy-based control of a communication network according to claim 10, having a register arranged for:
- a PEP to register events that a PDP can subscribe to;
- the PEP to register policy enforcements that the PDP may suggest to the PEP;
- the PDP to obtain said registered events;
- the PDP to obtain said registered policy enforcements.

18.   (Previously Presented)   The   system   for   policy-based   control   of   a communication network according to claim 10, wherein PDPs comprise stakeholders such as operators, application developers, vendors, governmental organizations, end-users or service providers.